3. OUTLINE OF CONSONANTS AND VOWELS

Sahu has an phoneme inventory of twenty-four consonants[6] (including two semi-vowels) and six vowels. However two of the consonants ([f] and [h]) and one vowel ([ə]) are loan phonemes.

Modes of articulation	Bilabial	Alveolar	Alveo-palatal	Velar	Glottal
Plosives - voiced	p	t		k	' (ʔ)
Plosives - voiceless	b	d		g	
Implosives	ɓ	ɗ	ʄ	ɠ	
Nasals	m	n	ny (ɲ)	ng (ŋ)	
Affricate - voiced			c (tʃ)		
Affricate - voiceless			j (dʒ)		
Fricatives	f	s			h
Vibrant		r			
Lateral		l			
Semivowels	w	y			

	Front	Central	Back
Closed	i	ə	u
Open	e	a	o

Each of the front and back vowels /i, e, u, o/ has a predictable variant [ɪ, ɛ, ʊ, ɔ], respectively. These vowels along with the consonants are the focus of a more complete paper on the phonology of Sahu (Severn and Severn 1995).

DESCRIPTIVE STUDIES IN LANGUAGES OF MALUKU PART II

Edited by

WYN D. LAIDIG

1995
Badan Penyelenggara Seri NUSA
Universitas Katolik Indonesia Atma Jaya
Jakarta

v

Linguistic Studies of Indonesian
and Other Languages in Indonesia

VOLUME 38

ISSN 0126 - 2874